

## SERMON STUDY GUIDE

May 3, 2026

Rev. Josh Desch

### “The Essential of Marriage: Reconciliation”

**Sermon Text:** Matthew 18:21-35

**Sermon Outline:**

1. No hiding: Marriage uniquely \_\_\_\_\_ our sin (verse 21)
2. You cannot have both: Being \_\_\_\_\_ or being \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 22)
3. The Gospel of grace: In marriage, you get to \_\_\_\_\_ it, \_\_\_\_\_ it, and \_\_\_\_\_ it (verses 23-35)

**Sermon Questions:**

1. The active ingredient in a medicine is what “makes it work.” Do you agree that reconciliation is the active ingredient in marriage?
2. How is reconciliation one expression of love in a marriage?
3. What does reconciliation look like in a marriage?
4. Have you ever considered that in your marriage, you are called to live out the gospel and to experience the gospel? What does that look like?
5. Josh said that in American culture today, we have “lost the plot” on marriage. We have put pressures on marriage it was never meant to bear. Where do we see that in our culture and where do we see it in the church?
6. Explore how seeing your marriage to Jesus as the true satisfaction of your deepest longings can actually help you gain a stronger marriage? Consider it also from the corporate perspective. The whole church is the bride of Christ. How does that impact you here and now, whether you are married or single?